

Hon. James C. Francis IV (Ret.)

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January 17, 2025

The Honorable Alvin K. Hellerstein
 United States District Judge
 United States Courthouse
 500 Pearl Street
 New York, NY 10007

Re: UMG Recordings, Inc. v. Uncharted Labs, Inc.
 24 Civ. 4777 (AKH)

Dear Judge Hellerstein:

Consistent with the Order Appointing Special Master dated December 5, 2024, I am submitting this letter as my first report on the relevant activities that the parties have conducted with my participation.

Subsequent to the Court conference on December 5, I met with counsel on December 9 and 23; January 3 and 14, 2025; and earlier today. To facilitate negotiations, the January 3 conference also included one party's expert witness.

At the time of my appointment, the parties were in disagreement with respect to certain terms of (1) an ESI protocol, and (2) a confidentiality order. These disputes were subsequently resolved, and the parties submitted a Stipulated Order re: Discovery of Electronically Stored Information and a Confidentiality Stipulation and Protective Order, both of which were approved by the Court and filed on the docket.

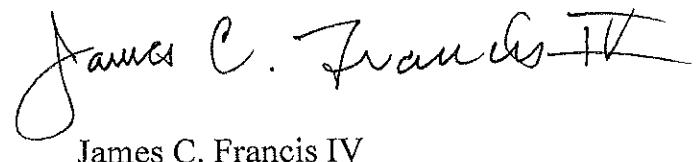
During the course of our discussions, counsel also raised disputes regarding procedures for the examination of source code. Those disagreements, too, were resolved, and the parties submitted a Stipulated Source Code Protocol, which was endorsed by the Court and filed.

Finally, the parties are currently negotiating a protocol for the examination of data used to train the AI algorithm. There remains one open issue, and counsel are to report back to me by January 22 whether they are able to resolve it.

In summary, the parties have been proceeding cooperatively with the goal of meeting the deadlines set by the Court and positioning the case for a determination on the merits.

I would be happy to respond to any questions that the Court may have.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James C. Francis IV". The signature is fluid and cursive, with "James" on the first line, "C." on the second, and "Francis IV" on the third.

James C. Francis IV